

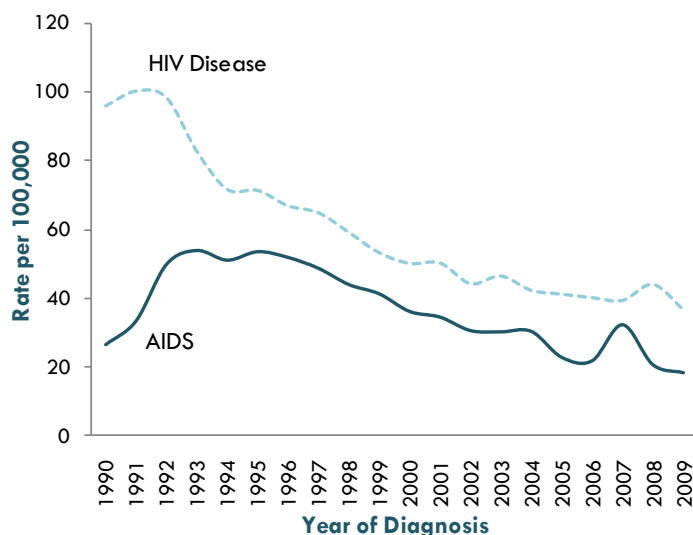
HIV within

Black Communities

December 2010

In Virginia, as in the United States as a whole, the HIV/AIDS epidemic is a health crisis for Black communities. At all stages of HIV (from new infections to deaths) Blacks are disproportionately affected compared to members of other races and ethnicities.¹ Between 2005 and 2009, 1 in approximately every 2,450 Black Virginians was diagnosed with HIV disease^o compared to 1 in every 19,670 White Virginians. Only 20% of Virginians identify themselves as Black but they represented 61% of the burden of HIV diagnoses in Virginia from 2005-2009.

HIV & AIDS Diagnosis Rates within Black Communities in Virginia, 1990-2009



There are persistent **health disparities** in HIV disease diagnosis rates between Black and White men and women.

Black men are **6 times** more likely to be diagnosed with HIV disease than White men.



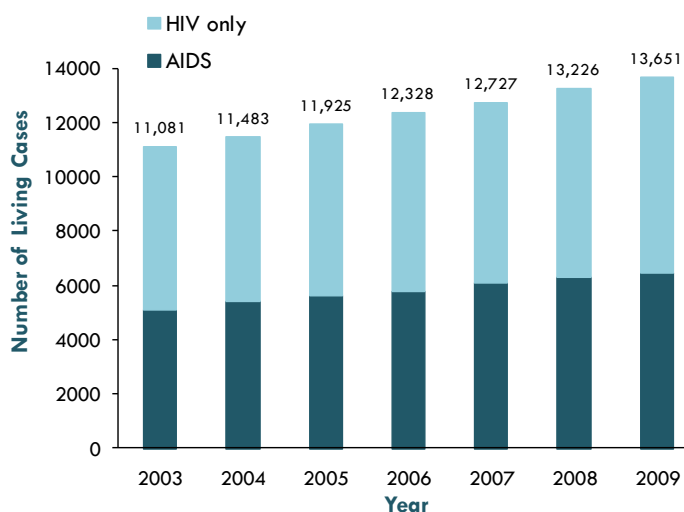
Black women are **21 times** more likely to be diagnosed with HIV disease than White women.



HIV/AIDS PREVALENCE

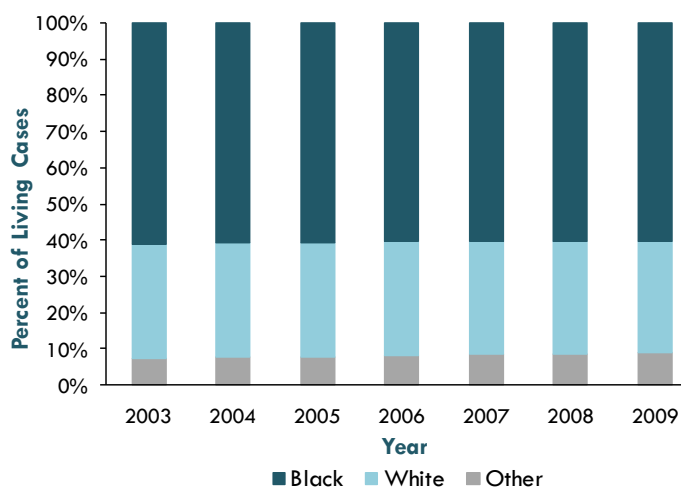
Advances in medical therapies have resulted in people living longer with HIV/AIDS. As of December 31, 2009, there were 13,651 Blacks known to be living with HIV in Virginia, 47% of whom had progressed to AIDS. One in 120 Blacks are known to be living with HIV as compared to one in 800 Whites.

Blacks Living with HIV Disease in Virginia, 2003-2009



Blacks comprise nearly two-thirds (61%) of all people living with HIV disease in Virginia. Additionally, Black women account for 77% of all women living with HIV.

People Living with HIV Disease by Selected Race in Virginia, 2003-2009



HIV WITHIN BLACK COMMUNITIES

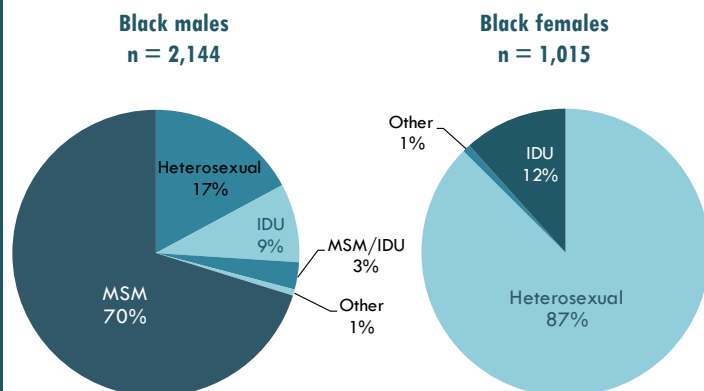
1 in 85 Black men are known to be living with HIV disease.

1 in 186 Black women are known to be living with HIV disease.

HIV DISEASE DIAGNOSES

By Transmission Category†

The largest percentage (70%) of new Black male diagnoses between 2005 and 2009 were among men who have sex with men (MSM). Among Black females, 87% were attributed to heterosexual contact. Other modes of transmission, such as perinatal exposure (mother-to-child) or blood transfusion accounted for less than 1% of diagnoses among the Black population in the same time period.



For every 5 Black Virginians diagnosed with HIV disease, approximately:

- 3 are men**
- 2 live in the Eastern region**
- 4 are 20 to 44 years old at diagnosis**
- 4 are attributed to sex with men**

By Locality

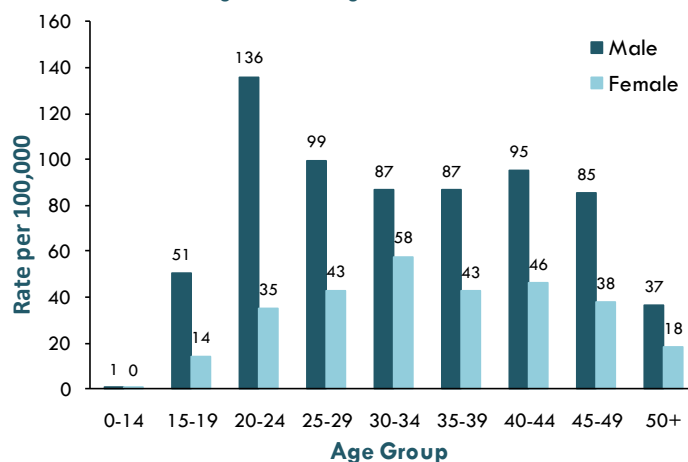
Among cities/counties with a minimum of 20 people diagnosed with HIV disease between 2005 and 2009, the following have the greatest percentage of newly diagnosed cases in Blacks of all persons diagnosed:

| | | |
|--------------|-----|---------|
| Accomack Co. | 90% | (n=21) |
| Petersburg | 88% | (n=93) |
| Hampton | 86% | (n=155) |
| Newport News | 86% | (n=195) |
| Portsmouth | 82% | (n=145) |

By Age at Diagnosis

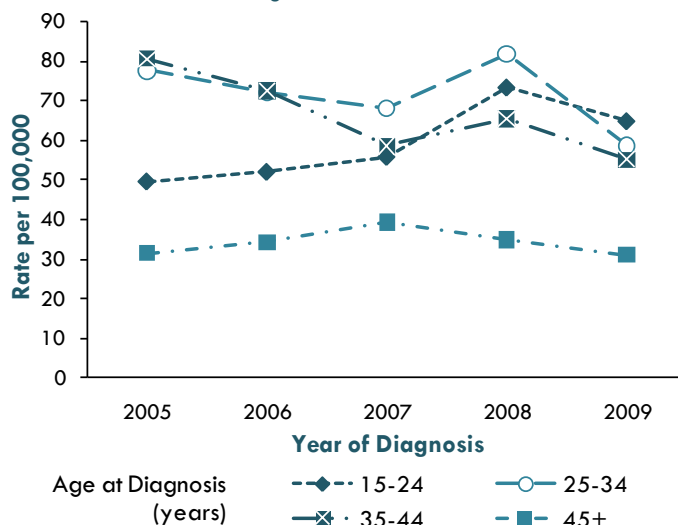
The age specific rate of newly diagnosed HIV disease among Blacks exceeds the age specific rate among any other race or ethnicity. From 2005-2009, the highest rates of newly diagnosed cases of HIV disease occurred among Black males ages 20-24. Black males in this age range are 12 times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV disease than their White counterparts during this 5-year period.

Rates of HIV Disease among Blacks by Gender and Age at Diagnosis in Virginia, 2005-2009*



The highest rates of HIV disease diagnoses for Blacks in 2009 are among those aged 15-24 (65 per 100,000 individuals) and 25-34 (59 per 100,000). These rates decreased from the previous year but could be caused by incomplete data from reporting delays. Although Black youth in Virginia represent only 23% of all people under the age of 25, they accounted for over 76% of HIV disease diagnoses in that age group.

Rates of HIV Disease among Blacks by Age at Diagnosis in Virginia, 2005-2009^

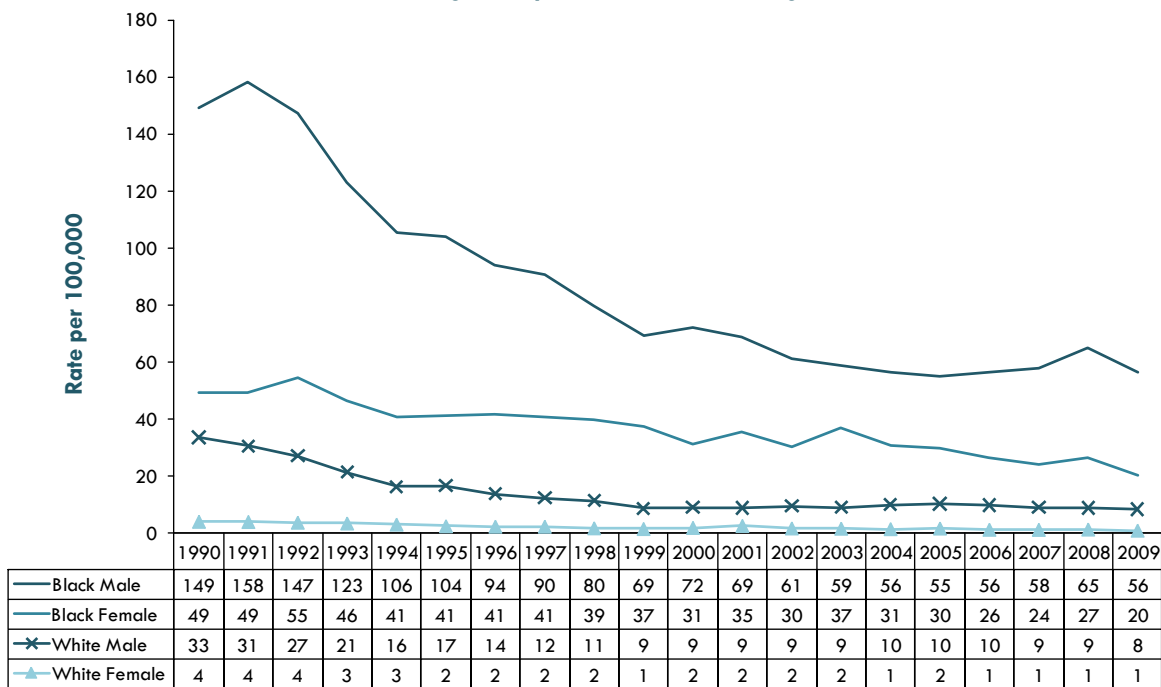


HIV WITHIN BLACK COMMUNITIES

By Gender

Between 2005 and 2009, the average annual rate of HIV disease diagnoses was 58 per 100,000 and 25 per 100,000 among Black males and females, respectively. Men accounted for 68% of the total number of HIV disease diagnoses within Black communities during the five year period.

Rates of HIV Disease Diagnosis by Race and Gender in Virginia, 1990-2009



Data for 2009 is preliminary and may be incomplete due to reporting delays.

†These data are not actual cases; the percentages presented are estimates of the transmission category using the CDC provided multiple imputation procedure for cases reported without an identified or reported risk.

*Small case counts among Blacks ages 0-14 and Black females ages 15-19 may result in unreliable rate estimates.

^Small case counts among Blacks ages 0-14 may result in unreliable rate estimates.

Definitions

◊HIV disease: refers to anyone who is newly reported with HIV in the given time period, regardless of disease progression status

MSM: men who have sex with men

IDU: injection drug use

References

¹CDC. CDC HIV/AIDS Fact Sheet, HIV/AIDS and African Americans. Updated September 9, 2010. <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/aa/index.htm>.

For more information...

**[http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/
DiseasePrevention/data/](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/DiseasePrevention/data/)**

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